

REMARKS

The Examiner objects to the specification for informalities.

Claims 1-13 are pending in the application prior to entering this amendment. The Examiner objects to claim 6 under 37 C.F.R. § 1.75 for double patenting (it is a duplicate of claim 3). The Examiner rejects claims 1-13 under 35 U.S.C. 102(a) as being anticipated by admitted prior art (APA).

The applicant amends claims 1-6 and 12, and adds claims 14-18. Claims 1-18 remain in the case after entering this amendment.

The applicant adds no new matter and requests reconsideration.

Specification

The applicant amends the specification to obviate the Examiner's objection. More particularly, the applicant replaces —Fig. 1— at page 7, line 17, with —Fig. 3—.

Double Patenting

The applicant amends claim 6 to obviate the Examiner's rejection. Claim 6 is now not a duplicate of claim 3.

Claim Rejections – 35 U.S.C. § 102

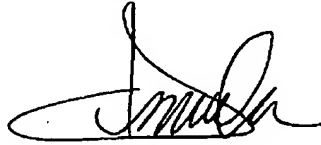
Claim 1 recites *where the reference word line is selected when at least one of the plurality of word lines is selected*. Claim 12 recites *where the reference word line selecting circuit selects the reference word line when at least one of the plurality of word lines is selected*. The reference word line of the present application is selected when at least one of the word lines is selected. In contrast, the APA discloses a word line WL1 in Figure 1 that is not selected when another of the words lines WL2-WLm is also selected. Put differently, in the APA, only one of the plurality of word lines WL1 – WLm is selected by decoding address signals XA1-k.

Conclusion

The applicant requests reconsideration and allowance of all claims as amended. The Examiner is encouraged to telephone the undersigned at (503) 222-3613 if it appears that an interview would be helpful in advancing the case.

Respectfully submitted,

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